IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A recording apparatus comprising:

means for generating, from input moving picture data, a menu thumbnail picture representative of contents of said moving picture data, as first thumbnail data, and for generating, from said moving picture data, a mark thumbnail picture of a picture extracted as a characteristic picture, or a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, as a second thumbnail data, said [[menu]] first thumbnail ~~picture and mark thumbnail picture~~ data being generated as ~~respective~~ a first independent ~~files of a~~ menu thumbnail file of only said first thumbnail data, and ~~a mark~~ said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent mark thumbnail file of only said second thumbnail ~~file~~ data; and

means for recording said first thumbnail data and the second thumbnail data, generated by said generating means, as independent groups on a recording medium,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist, the playlist indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a picture stored in an external device.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said generating means generates first management data supervising said first thumbnail data with a number corresponding to the first thumbnail data, said generating means also generating second management data supervising said second thumbnail data with a number

2

corresponding to the second thumbnail data; said recording means recording said first and

second management data in said recording medium.

Claim 5 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said first

and second management data include data specifying the format of the picture data of the

thumbnail data being supervised.

Claim 6 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said

recording means records picture data of said thumbnail picture contained in said first or

second management data in terms of a block of a preset size as a unit.

Claim 7 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said

recording means records the information representing the referencing destination of said first

thumbnail data as a separate file on said recording medium.

Claim 8 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said

recording means further records the information indicating the referencing destination of said

thumbnail picture contained in said second thumbnail data.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A recording method comprising:

generating, from input moving picture data, a menu thumbnail picture representative

of contents of said moving picture data, as first thumbnail data, and generating, from said

moving picture data, a mark thumbnail picture of a picture extracted as a characteristic

picture, or a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, as a second thumbnail data,

said [[menu]] first thumbnail picture and mark thumbnail picture data being generated as

respective independent files of a first independent menu thumbnail file of only said first

thumbnail data, and [[a]] said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent

mark thumbnail file of only said second mark thumbnail file data; and

exercising control for recording said first thumbnail data and the second thumbnail

data, generated by said generating, as independent groups on a recording medium,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

the playlist indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture

data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a

picture stored in an external device.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A recording medium having recorded thereon a

computer-readable program, said computer-readable program comprising:

generating, from input moving picture data, a menu thumbnail picture representative

of contents of said moving picture data, as first thumbnail data, and generating, from said

moving picture data, a mark thumbnail picture of a picture extracted as a characteristic

picture, or a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, as a second thumbnail data,

said [[menu]] first thumbnail picture and mark thumbnail picture data being generated as

respective independent files of a first independent menu thumbnail file of only said first

thumbnail data, and [[a]] said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent

file of only said second mark thumbnail file data; and

exercising control for recording said first thumbnail data and the second thumbnail

data, generated by said generating, as independent groups on a recording medium,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

the playlist indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture

data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a

picture stored in an external device.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A reproducing apparatus comprising:

first readout means for reading out management data supervising picture data of a

menu thumbnail picture representative of contents of said picture data in case playback of

said picture data is commanded;

second readout means for reading out said picture data based on said management

data read out by said readout means;

third readout means for reading out picture data of a mark thumbnail picture of a

picture extracted as a characteristic picture from said picture data or picture data of a

thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, and management data supervising said

picture data, said [[menu]] first thumbnail ~~picture and mark thumbnail picture~~ data being

~~respective~~ a first independent ~~files of a~~ menu thumbnail file of only said first thumbnail data,

and [[a]] said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent mark

thumbnail file of only said second ~~mark~~ thumbnail ~~file~~ data; and

fourth readout means for reading out said picture data based on said management data

read out from said third readout means,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

the playlist indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture

data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a

picture stored in an external device.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A reproducing method comprising:

a first readout controlling reading out management data supervising picture data of a

menu thumbnail picture representative of contents of said picture data in case playback of

said picture data is commanded;

a second readout controlling the readout of said picture data based on said

management data readout-controlled by the processing of said first readout control;

a third readout controlling reading out picture data of a mark thumbnail picture of a

picture extracted as a characteristic picture from said picture data or picture data of a

thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, and management data supervising said

picture data, said [[menu]] first thumbnail picture and mark thumbnail picture data being

generated as respective a first independent files of a menu thumbnail file of only said first

thumbnail data, and [[a]] said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent

mark thumbnail file of only said second mark thumbnail file data; and

a fourth readout controlling reading out said picture data based on said management

data readout-controlled by the processing of said third readout control,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

the playlist indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture

data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a picture stored in an external device.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program, said computer-readable program comprising:

a first readout controlling the readout of management data supervising picture data of a menu thumbnail picture representative of contents of said picture data in case playback of said picture data is commanded;

a second readout controlling the readout of said picture data based on said management data readout-controlled by the processing of said first readout control;

a third readout controlling reading out picture data of a menu thumbnail picture of a picture extracted as a characteristic picture from said picture data or picture data of a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, and management data supervising said picture data, said [[menu]] first thumbnail picture and mark thumbnail picture data being generated as respective a first independent files of a menu thumbnail file of only said first thumbnail data, and [[a]] said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent mark thumbnail file of only said second mark thumbnail file data;

a fourth readout controlling reading out said picture data based on said management data readout-controlled by the processing of said third readout controlling,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist, the playlist indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a picture stored in an external device.

Claims 15-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a playlist in the moving picture data, and said mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of the playlist.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The recording method according to claim 9, wherein said menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a playlist in the moving picture data, and said mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of the playlist.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The recording medium according to claim 10, wherein said menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a playlist in the moving picture data, and said mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of the playlist.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The reproducing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a playlist in the moving picture data, and said mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of the playlist.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The reproducing method according to claim 13, wherein said menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a playlist in the moving

picture data, and said mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of

the playlist.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The recording medium according to claim 14,

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a playlist in the moving

picture data, and said mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of

the playlist.